

[illegible]

ABSTRACT

A crosslinking agent for crosslinking ionotropic gels by linking gel molecules by counterion bridges contains the counterions in a state wherein they are bound to a carrier substance. The counterions can be released from the carrier substance under the external influence of a substance, temperature or radiation. For crosslinking of the gel, first a mixture of the gel molecules to be crosslinked and the crosslinking agent is prepared, a molded body is produced from this mixture and then crosslinking of the gel molecules is induced by the release of the counterions from the carrier substance through the external influence of a substance, temperature or radiation.